Postal stamp technology.. It's Relation with artistic and cultural values ¹

Abdullatif Salman²

Abstract

This research paper deals with the procedures of issuing postal stamps in general, revealing the administrative, artistic and technical processes that precede the printing of the stamp, then, the steps that follow like; printing, gluing, punching, paper selection and coloring.

It also surveys the variety of inks used in printing techniques since the appearance of stamps in 1840 until present.

As an example, the research work covers the Syrian stamp issuing and development from the end of the Ottoman era, through the French mandate, independence period, until present, and the social and political developments that were reflected in the Syrian postal stamps. Finally, regarding the stamp as a world ambassador, the subject shows the importance of postal stamps in introducing to the world, the Syrian culture, history, economy and tourism.

¹ For the paper in Arabic see pages (419-461).

² Dept. Faculty of Fine Arts, Graphic Arts, Damascus University.